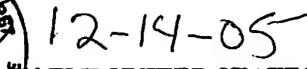
PATENT 450100-03261



## N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

: Shigeyoshi HIRASHIMA et al.

Serial No.

09/894,689

For

CONNECTION APPARATUS, CONNECTING METHOD,

AND STORAGE MEDIUM FOR STORING COMPUTER-

READABLE PROGRAM HAVING CONNECTING

**FUNCTIONS** 

Filed

June 27, 2001

Examiner

King Poon

Art Unit

2624

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## **AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116**

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action which issued September 15, 2005, please consider the following amendment to the above-referenced application.